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states:(71) Applicant: **MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO
LTD**(72) Inventor: **ANEZAKI TAKASHI
WATANABE MAKOTO
AOKI NORIO
MOTOTANI KUNIHICO
IDE SUSUMU
MURATA MASAO**

(74) Representative:

**(54) DETECTING METHOD
OF CORNER POSITION**

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To detect an accurate corner position, by detecting roughly the corner position with a line sequential scan and applying a heuristic searching method to an obtained contour part.

CONSTITUTION: A binary coded picture fed from a picture input device 101 is stored temporarily at a picture data storage part 102. A circumscribed rectangle detecting part 103 scans the picture data to search the contour of an object and then detects a rectangular region inscribed to said contour. The contour is divided by the contacts of the rectangle, and each of these divide contours undergoes a linear scan from the edge line of the rectangle to obtain a position data on the contour.

A scanning direction setting part 104 sets the scanning direction to enable the corner detection and avoids the undetection of corners. Then the position data of each partial contour is detected at a linear scan contour detecting part 105 in response to the set direction. A searching part 107 carries out searching in a heuristic searching method.

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